

Why does Civic Learning matter?

"Knowledge of our system of government is not handed down through the gene pool. ... The habits of citizenship must be learned ... But we have neglected civic education for the past several decades, and the results are predictably dismal."

- Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice
Sandra Day O'Connor



Comments from December 2011 survey...

"Social studies is under attack...we are being placed at the back of the bus."

"It's discouraging to see social studies treated like the ugly stepsister in our schools."

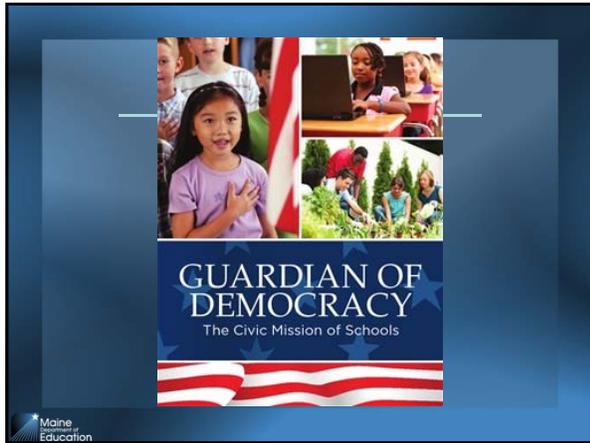
"...in some ways it's nice to have a lot of autonomy, but sometimes it feels like social studies is not really valued by some administrators and law makers."



Agenda

1. Snapshot of 6 Proven Practices in Civic Learning
2. Explore the "Civic Education Connections" to the Common Core State Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies for your grade band





*Guardian of Democracy:
The Civic Mission of Schools*
Proven Practices in Civic Learning

Proven Practice #1: Provide instruction in government, history, law, and democracy.

Proven Practice #2: Incorporate discussion of current local, national, and international issues and events into the classroom, particularly those that young people view as important to their lives.



Proven Practice #3: Design and implement programs that provide students with the opportunity to apply what they learn through performing community service that is linked to the formal curriculum and classroom instruction.

Proven Practice #4: Offer extracurricular activities that provide opportunities for young people to get involved in their schools or communities.



Proven Practice #5: Encourage student participation in school governance.

Proven Practice #6: Encourage students' participation in simulations of democratic processes and procedures.



Your thoughts...

What's one step you might be able to take....
next week?
before the end of the school year?
before the start of next school year?



Civic Education and the CCSS for Literacy in History/Social Studies

What do we know?



**Rate your understanding of the CCSS
for Literacy in History/Social Studies**

Level 1: Toe-dip

Level 2: Ankle-deep

Level 3: Wader

Level 4: Fully Immersed



Background

- The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the National Governors Association led the development of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)
- The Maine Legislature adopted CCSS in March, 2011 for ELA & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects and Math (currently 45 states & 3 territories have also adopted)



CCSS...

Provide a vision for what it means to be a literate person

Prepare all students for college/career

Call for development of literacy skills in all subject areas



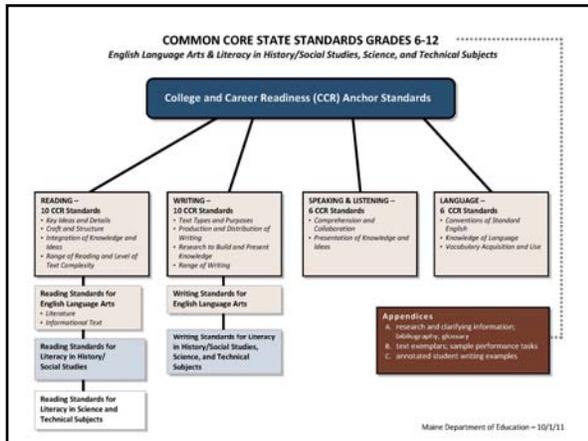
**What does this mean for
 Social Studies?**

CCSS DO NOT replace the *Maine Learning Results* for Social Studies, but rather complement the MLR's

Students should be provided with authentic opportunities to apply and develop their literacy skills *through engagement in social studies content*

Literacy THROUGH Social Studies





**A guide to align
Civic Education to CCSS**

Introduction and Overview: pages 1-6
Bibliography: page 67

Civic Education Connections to CCSS for ELA:
K-2: pages 7-18; 3-5: pages 19-31

Civic Education Connections to CCSS for
Reading & Writing Standards for Literacy in
History/Social Studies, Grades 6-12: pages 59-66



The crucial role of Social Studies...

College & Career Readiness?

College, Career, and Civic Life

" Democracy must be reborn in every
generation, and education is its
midwife."
- John Dewey



Resources

Guardian of Democracy: The Civic Mission of Schools. Campaign for Civic Mission of Schools (2011): <http://www.civicyouth.org/the-campaign/guardian-of-democracy-report/>

Preparing Students for College, Career, and Citizenship. Los Angeles County Office of Education (2011): <http://www.lacoe.edu/CurriculumInstruction/HistorySocialScience.aspx>

Fault Lines in Our Democracy: Civic Knowledge, Voting Behavior, and Civic Engagement in the United States. Educational Testing Service (2012): <http://www.ets.org/s/research/19386/>

CIRCLE Fact Sheet: State Civic Education Requirements. CIRCLE (2012): <http://www.civicyouth.org/new-circle-fact-sheet-describes-state-laws-standards-and-requirements-for-k-12-civics/>